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Rocky Flats Office

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ROCKY FLATS PL-CORRESPOSE

ERD RJS 06508

Environmental Data Analysis and Storage

Róbert Benedetti "Associate-General Manager **Environmental Restoration Management** EG&G Rocky Flats Inc

Preparation of the Draft OU2 Surface Water IM/IRA Phase II Report and the Operable Unit 1 (OU1) Final Phase III RFI/RI Report has raised two concerns which need to be addressed quickly The first issue is treatment of nondetects (data below the detection limit) for statistical analysis of analytical data. There does not appear to be a consistent policy regarding this issue For example the Background Geochemical Characterization Report states 'For statistical analysis all below detection limit (BDL) data were replaced with one half the detection limit (DL) In case of multiple detection limits and to set an acceptable upper detection limit, all nondetects (ND) greater than 2 times the minimum reporting limit were omitted from statistical analysis and the remaining nondetects replaced with one half the detection limit. The OU2 Surface Water IM/IRA Phase II Report, on the other hand disregarded all nondetect data and only used data that was above the detection limit in the analysis. The approach applied in the OU2 IM/IRA Report resulted in conclusion being reported that could not be supported by examining the entire data set. Therefore the Department of Energy (DOE) directs EG&G to formulate a policy (if one does not already exist) for handling nondetects (including data sets with multiple detection limits) that can be applied uniformly in all reports. This will permit direct comparison of reduced data from one report to another

The second issue concerns the effort and time required to cleanup the data from the Rocky Flats Environmental Database System (RFEDS) for preparation of the OU1 Final Phase III RFI/RI Report. The task to cleanup the data has taken over three weeks DOE would like to request that EG&G submit a summary of all the problems encountered in the cleanup of the data and an action plan to resolve these problems for data that is added to RFEDS in the future. In addition DOE would like to know how EG&G plans to manage the clean database for OU1 for future use

Your response regarding all the issues is due to DOE within twenty (20) working days after receipt of this memorandum

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R Benedetti **ERD RJS 06508**

If you have any questions please contact Richard Schassburger at extension 966-4888

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